

BOROUGH OF BUXTON



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

School Medical Officer

and

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1925.

BUXTON :

Printed at the "Advertiser" Offices, Palace Road,
1926.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and
Medical Officer Child Welfare Centre.:
T. BUXTON FLINT, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lon).

Sanitary Inspector:
W. O. COATES, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Meat Inspector:
R. S. HOWE, M.R.C.V.S.,

Health Visitor and School Nurse:
Mrs. N. F. STEPHENS, C.R.San.I., C.M.B.

Assistant Health Visitor and School Nurse:
MRS. DOWNES, A.R.R.C., C.M.B.

General Assistant, &c.:
GEORGE GYTE.

Clerk:
THOMAS L. ARMITT

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1925.



To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of
Buxton.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Buxton for 1925.

The present Report is a Survey Report, and is of a more comprehensive character.

The Ministry of Health wishes that Reports for 1925 should deal with

(a) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health ;

(b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area, e.g. housing, food inspection, maternity and child welfare schemes, schemes for the treatment of tuberculous and venereal diseases, or other services directed to the prevention or cure of disease in individuals ;

(c) Any further action of importance in the organisation in development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority, or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health :

- (a) The low death-rate, viz., 10.64, the average for the five years 1921-1925 ;

the lowered infantile mortality rate, viz., 68.3, the average for the last five years ;

and the comparatively few cases of infectious disease, show the progress made.

- (b) Sanitary improvements carried out during the last five years :—

- (1) Municipal houses, 1921-25—52 built.
- (2) The establishment of a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.
- (3) The establishment of a School Clinic.
- (4) The establishment of a Dental Clinic.
- (5) The systematic examination of milk supplies, giving a cleaner milk.
- (6) The abolition of all privies where practicable.
- (7) The appointment of a Meat Inspector, whereby a very thorough examination of all meat supplies is obtained.

- (c) (1) More small houses as provided by the Council's Housing Scheme.
- (2) Better provision for the treatment of the mentally defective school child and the physically defective child.

BIRTH-RATE.

1921	.....	16.5
1922	.....	14.91
1923	.....	16.39
1924	.....	14.92
1925	.....	14.52
Average for five years—		15.44.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

1921	.....	40.9
1922	.....	76.2
1923	.....	69.1
1924	.....	57.0
1925	.....	98.6
Average for five years—		68.3.

DEATH-RATE.

1921	.....	8.99
1922	.....	11.90
1923	.....	10.45
1924	.....	10.99
1925	.....	10.87
Average for five years—10.64.		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

	Diptheria.	Scarlet	Fever.	Enteric.	Tuberculosis		
1921.....	3	...	22	...	4	...	34
1922.....	8	...	17	...	2	...	18
1923.....	3	...	19	...	1	...	38
1924.....	9	...	35	...	2	...	30
1925.....	5	...	22	...	1	...	35

MUNICIPAL HOUSES BUILT.

1921	.....	3
1922	.....	0
1923	.....	0
1924	.....	20
1925	.....	29

The Child Welfare Centre has had another very successful year and thanks are due to the voluntary helpers who have assisted.

I have to express my indebtedness to Mr. Coates, the Sanitary Inspector, Nurse Stephens, Nurse Downes, and the other members of the Staff, who have so readily given me every help during the past year.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BUXTON FLINT.

A—Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

1. The elevation of the District is from 950 to 1,200 feet above sea-level.

Geology.—The town, famous for its Baths and Waters, is situated in an upland valley surrounded by hills on all sides, and is built partly on limestone and partly on millstone grit. Three lines of railway serve it, and large numbers of people visit the town for the purposes of health and pleasure.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the Borough :

Late Buxton Urban District Council	1275 acres.
" " Water	20 acres.
" " Roads	15 acres.
Total	<u>1310 acres.</u>

Fairfield Wards—Estimated 1798 acres.

Total area of the Borough—Estimated 3108 acres.

Population of the Borough :

Census for 1901 (Buxton U.D.C. only)	10,181
Census for 1911	13,760
*Corrected Population for 1921	14,790

* Corrected by Registrar General for holiday movement.

Estimated Population for 1925 15,360

Number of Inhabited Houses (1925): 3154.

Rateable Value : £114,970.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £440.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate (R.G.) : 14.52

Number of Births :

Legitimate	214	
Illegitimate	9	
	<u> </u>	223

Death Rate (R.G.) 10.87

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child birth :—

From Sepsis.....	2
From other causes	0

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate	21	
Illegitimate	1	
	<u> </u>	22

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	2
Deaths fom Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	3

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

VITAL STATISITICS.

Birth Rate	14.52
Infantile Mortality Rate	98.6

Death-Rates per 1,000.

All causes.	Zymotic.	Enteric Fever &	Diarrhœa.	Phthisis.
10.87	.39		.13	.78
Respiratory Diseases.				
1.36				

For the purpose of comparison the figures for England and Wales, 105 County Boroughs and great towns, 157 smaller towns, and London are given :—

1925.

	Birth Rate per 1000 total population.	Death Rate per 1000 civilian population. All causes.	Rate per 1000 births Total deaths under one year.
England and Wales	18.3	12.2	75
105 County Borough and Great Towns (including London) ...	18.8	12.2	79
157 Smaller Towns (20,000—50,000)	18.3	11.2	74
London	18.0	11.7	67

During the year 223 births were registered, or at the rate of 14.52 per 1,000 of the population. Of these 223 births, 108 were boys and 115 were girls. 9 children were born illegitimate.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

1 death from measles, 5 deaths from influenza and 3 deaths from whooping cough occurred, giving a death-rate of .65 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

Feeding.	Born.	Died.	Cause.	Attendances at Welfare Centre.
Artificial	16-8-24	13-3-25	Convulsions	Did not Attend.
Breast	4-3-25	9-3-25	Cardiac Failure	
Breast	4-3-25	25-3-25	Insufficient Development	Did not Attend.
Breast	14-3-25	22-3-25	Inanition	Did not Attend.
			Insufficient Development	Did not Attend.
Artificial	16-10-24	29-5-25	Inanition	
			Broncho-Pneumonia	Did not Attend.
Artificial	18-3-25	11-6-25	Whooping Cough	
			Marasmas	Did not Attend.
Breast	17-3-25	12-7-25	Whooping Cough	
			Bronchial-Pneumonia	Attended twice, in May and June.
Breast	5-9-24	13-7-25	Acute Bronchitis	
			Convulsions	Attended four times altogether. Had not attended since February.
Breast	26-8-25	19-9-25	Prematurity	
C.M. & W.	26-8-25	16-9-25	Enteritis	Did not Attend.
	9-9-25	9-9-25	Convulsions	Did not Attend.
			Congenital Deformity of Skull	
			Meningocele	Age, one hour.
Artificial	19-8-25	12-9-25	Thrush	
			Gastro-Enteritis	Did not Attend.
Artificial	20-8-25	20-9-25	Convulsions	
			Strangulated	Did not Attend.
Breast	28-12-24	24-9-25	Inguinal Hernia	
			Acute Bronchitis	Had not attended Centre for 10 weeks prior to death.
			Convulsions	
Breast	11-10-25	13-10-25	Immaturity (Triplets)	Could not Attend.
Breast	11-10-25	17-10-25		
Breast	11-10-25	20-10-25		
Nil	17-9-25	17-9-25	Immaturity	Age, one hour.
Nil	29-8-25	29-8-25	Prematurity	Age, six hours.
Artificial	3-9-25	9-12-25	Inquest	Did not Attend.
			Cerebral Embolism	
	20-9-25	24-12-25	Bronchitis	Did not Attend.
			Broncho-Pneumonia	

TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

12 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of .78 per 1,000.

CANCER.

20 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 1.37 per 1,000

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

18 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 1.36 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOROUGH OF BUXTON

DURING YEAR 1925.

Causes of Death.					Males	Females
All Causes. (Civilians only).					92	75
1.	Enteric Fever	...	.....	...	...	...
2.	Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...
3.	Measles	...	...	...	1	...
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	2
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	4	1
8.	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory Systems	...	...	...	9	3
10.	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	1	1
12.	Cancer, Malignant Diseases	...	...	...	9	11
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	1
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	1
15.	Heart Diseases	...	...	...	9	5
16.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	6	5
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	6	3
18.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	1	...
19.	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	2	...
20.	Appendicitis and Typhilitis	...	...	...	1	1
21.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	2	...
22.	Nephritis, Acute and Chronic	...	...	...	2	3
23.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	2
24.	Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...
25.	Congenital Debility, Prem't're Births, &c.	...	...	...	7	3
26.	Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	4	1
27.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	...
28.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	14	19
29.	Causes, ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...
30.	Cerebral Hemorrhage	...	...	...	5	10
31.	Arterio Sclerosis	...	...	...	2	3
32.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	...
33.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenom	...	...	...	3	...
Special Causes (included in above)					...	...
Poliomyelitis					...	...
Polioencephalitis					...	...
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age. Total...					13	9
Illegitimate					1	...
TOTAL BIRTHS					108	115
Legitimate					101	113
Illegitimate					7	2
POPULATION :—For Death Rate and Birth Rate					...	15,360

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

There has been no undue prevalence of Infectious Disease since 1920.

Dyptheria anti-toxin is available free of charge to necessitous cases, and is used promptly.

During the last 20 years there have only been two " return " cases of Scarlet Fever.

Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are examined at Derby, and also at the Devonshire Hospital, Buxton.

No use has yet been made of the " Dick " Test for Scarlet Fever. At present the results appear to be not very definite. Should it prove more reliable it will be extremely valuable in the diagnosis of difficult cases.

The " Schiek " Test for Diptheria has not been used. It should prove useful in detecting susceptible children.

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	5	2	...
Scarlet Fever	22	20	...
Enteric Fever	1	1	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...
Pneumonia	11	...	...
Other Diseases :			
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	...	...
Chicken Pox	13	...	...
Erysipelas	2	1	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1		
Observation Cases—			
2 S.F. ... ..	...	2	...
6 Diphtheria ... ..	...	6	...
Tuberculosis			
(a) Pulmonary	24	...	12
(b) Non-Pulmonary	11	...	2

	Cases.			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified.	Treated					
		At Home.	In Hospital				
Opthalmia Neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NOTIFICATIONS.

During 1925 32 (excluding Tuberculosis and Chicken Pox) cases of infectious disease were notified.

SMALL-POX.

There has been no case of Small-pox in Buxton for thirty years.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases were notified.

SCARLET FEVER.

22 cases occurred during the year.

There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.

Five cases occurred.

There were no deaths.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No case occurred.

ENTERIC FEVER.

One case of Enteric Fever was notified.

Prevalence of and Control over Tuberculosis.

There is no special incidence of this disease in the district.

The number of cases notified during the year was 35.

Pulmonary	24
-----------------	----

Non-pulmonary	11
---------------------	----

The actual number of deaths was 12, giving a Phthisis death-rate of .78. Two deaths from non-pulmonary forms.

In case of death or removal the house is disinfected.

The methods of control are :—

(a) The Derbyshire County Sanatorium, which was opened in March, 1915, and has 100 beds—50 for males and 50 for females.

Patients are admitted by sending the patient to the Tuberculosis Officer at Chinley, when, if found suitable, he is put on the waiting list for admission.

(b) The Tuberculosis Dispensary at Lower Lane, Chinley.
OPEN—Mondays.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The attendances (from January 1st to December 31st) were as follows :—

	Atten- dances.		New cases.		Old cases.		Ante- natal.		Visitors.
Wednesdays	2206	.....	139	.....	2069	.....	15	.....	—
Mondays ...	1272	.....	—	.....	1272	.....	—	.....	—
	—		—		—		—		—
Total ...	3478		139		3339		15		—

The estimated population of the Borough is 15,360.

Births :—

Registered (1) Legitimate, 214 ; (2) Illegitimate, 9 ; (3) total, 223.

Notified within 36 hours of birth : (1) Live Births, 221 ; (2) Still Births, 6 ; (3) total, 227.

Notified within 36 hours of birth : By midwives, 209 ; (2) By parents and Doctors, 18.

Four cases of twin births ; one case of triplets.

Number of cases attended by midwife and doctor, 125.

Number of births not notified, 2.

Infant Deaths :—

Number : (1) Legitimate, 21 ; (2) Illegitimate, 1 ; (3) total, 22

Rate per 1,000 births : (1) Legitimate, 98.01 ; (2) Illegitimate, 111.1 ; (3) total, 98.6.

Maternal Deaths :—

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth : (1) from Sepsis, 2 ; (2) other causes, 0.

Mid-wives practising in the District : (1) Trained, 8 ; (2) Untrained, 1.

Health Visitor. Visits paid by Health Visitors :—

To Expectant Mothers : (1) First visits, 38 ; (2) total visits, 38.

To Infants under 1 : (1) First visits, 200 ; (2) total visits, 1269.

To Children 1—5 : Total visits, 643.

In addition, the Health Visitors made 20 infantile mortality visits, 4 visits in connection with still births, and 103 sundry visits, making a total of 2134 visits paid under the Act. Visits paid for the Housing Committee 36.

The Health Visitor gives a Health talk on Monday afternoons for Mothers, and instruction is given in cutting out garments for babies, etc. Patterns are supplied free, and materials can be had at cost price.

Four necessitous cases received one pint of milk daily for one month (28 pints each), making a total of 112 pints for the month. One of the cases had the order renewed for another month three times. Total amount given 175 pints. Six cases received Dried Milk free of cost, 26 packets were given.

10 lbs. of Codliver Oil and Malt, 1 lb. Virolax, 5 tins Lactagol, 1 lb. Sugar of Milk. 2 lbs. Vitmar, 3 lbs. Ovaltine, 7 lbs. Virol, 2 lbs. Groats, 1 tin Benger's Food, 7 packets Almata, 2 bottles Emulsion were also given.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

The Council has taken the following action with regard to places over which it has supervisio :—

Lodging-houses	None
Slaughter-houses Licensing & Registration Bye-laws adopted	1925
Dairies and Cowsheds	Orders adopted
Bakehouses (underground)	Bye-laws adopted
Offensive Trades Nuisance	Bye-laws adopted
Factories and Workshops	Periodical Inspection
New Factories and Buildings.	Bye-laws adopted
	1912

SCHOOLS.

A separate printed report upon the Medical Inspection of School Children has been submitted to the Education Committee, and also the Board of Education, and is given below .

FOOD.

(A) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 27 cow-keepers on the register.

The number of cows kept is approximately 155.

There are 27 cow-sheds in the Borough, the cubic space per cow varying from 200 cubic feet to 800 cubic feet. All the sheds are occupied by cows which are habitually turned out to grass during a part of the day throughout the year.

No formal action was taken under the Dairies, Cow-sheds and Milkshops Orders (1885 and 1899).

Particulars of Inspections :—

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
Cowsheds	27	188
Dairies	12	146
Milkshops	21	39

Six nuisances were found and abated, and five contraventions of the Order.

Milk is also supplied from 39 sources outside the Borough, and is generally good.

72 specimens of milk were sent for bacteriological examination to Derby. Two samples contained Tubercle Bacilli, one inside and one outside the Borough, and were dealt with by the Local Authorities concerned. One was referred to the County Council, and one dealt with by the Sanitary Authority, and the cow slaughtered.

Number of licences granted for the sale of milk under special designation	0
Refusal or revocation of registration of retailers	0

The summarised results of the bacteriological samples are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(B) MEAT.

Mr. Howe, M.R.C.V.S., was appointed Meat Inspector in June, 1925.

- (1) Meat Inspection.—See Meat Inspector's Report. (In case of absence, the Sanitary Inspector carries out this duty).
- (2) Administration of Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles. Inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (3) The management of Public Slaughter-houses (if any). None.

	In In 1920.	In January, 1925.	In December, 1925
Private slaughter-houses :			
Registered	0	0	0
Licenced	5	4	4
	—	—	—
Total	5	4	4
	—	—	—
In addition, there are Coun- cil Slaughter-houses.....	0	2	2

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 152 factories, workshops, workplaces and bakehouses on the register.

32 defects found, 27 of which were remedied.

Offences under Factory and Workshops Act :—

- (1) There was no illegal occupation of underground bakehouses.
- (2) There were two breaches of the special sanitary requirements for bakehouses, two of which were remedied.

No Tables have been issued by the Home Office for the current year.

4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

No causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the District.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THIS AREA.

5. SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, &c.

(a) Two District Nurses are provided by the local District Association and visit the houses generally. In addition, they do a certain amount of midwifery.

(b) As regards Measles, &c., the Local Authority has an arrangement with the Buxton Nursing Association whereby by paying a retaining fee of £30 and a certain specified sum per visit they have the services of these Nurses when required.

MIDWIVES.—None employed by Local Authority. Number practising in town, 8.

CLINICS.—The Maternity and Child Welfare, Bridge Street, Buxton, has ample accommodation—waiting room, weighing room, and doctor's room. It is provided by the Local Authority.

HOSPITALS provided or subsidised by the Local Authority, or the County Council :—

- (1) Isolation Hospital, Ashwood Dale. Within District. 28 beds. Admits Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Enteric.

- (2) Small-pox Hospital. Outside District. By arrangement with the Bakewell Authority. A retaining fee is paid (£50 per annum) and so much per case. Situated between Wardlow Miers and Stoney Middleton.
- (3) Others.
- Cottage Hospital. About 26 beds. In District.
- Devonshire Hospital. 316 beds. In District.
- Chinley Dispensary. (a) Tuberculosis cases. Outside District. Arrangements with County Council; (b) Tonsils and Adenoids.
- Tuberculosis Hospital. (a) Walton, Chesterfield. 100 beds. Outside District. Authority, Derbyshire County Council.
- (b) Penmore, Chesterfield. For advanced Male cases. Outside District. Authority, Derbyshire County Council.
- Children's Hospital. Pendlebury Manchester. Outside District.
- Manchester Royal Infirmary. Outside District.
- Maternity Hospital. Nil.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—

- (a) For infectious cases: a horse ambulance is kept at the Isolation Hospital.
- (b) For non-infectious cases and accidents: a Red Cross motor ambulance is stationed in the town.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children.

CLINICS :—

Maternity & Child Welfare, Weds., 2-30—4-30. M.& C.W. Com.
 Bridge Street..... Mons., 2-30—4-30. Boro.' of Buxton.
 School Clinic Tues., 2-30—4-30. Boro.' Ed. Com.
 Dental Clinic Thurs., 9—11..... Boro.' Ed. Com.
 „ „ Fri. 9—11..... Boro.' Ed. Com.
 Tuberculosis Dispensary,
 Chinley Mons., 2-30—4-30. Derbyshire C.C.
 Venereal Disease Clinic, Stockport, See later.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS :

Bye-laws respecting Nuisances, 1920.
 Bye-laws respecting Removal of Noxious or Offensive Matters, 1920.
 Bye-laws respecting Slaughter-houses, 1925.
 Bye-laws respecting New Streets and Buildings, 1917.
 Bye-laws respecting Good Rule and Government, 1920.
 Regulations for Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops, 1917.
 Bye-laws—Underground Bakehouses, 1917.

6. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health : School Medical Officer ; Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare ; Certifying Surgeon.—T. B. FLINT (part time).

Sanitary Inspector.—W. O. COATES, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (whole time).

Health Visitor and School Nurse.—Mrs. N. F. STEPHENS, C.R.San.I, C.M.B. (whole time).

Assistant Health Visitor and School Nurse.—Mrs. A. Downes, A.R.R.C. C.M.B. (whole time).

General Assistant.—GEORGE GYTE (part time) ; also Inspector of Hackney Carriages and Markets.

Junior Clerk.—T. LESLIE ARMITT (whole time).

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF BUXTON DISTRICT.

- (1) WATER SUPPLIES.—Ample and good.
- (2) SEWERAGE.—Practically all on water carriage system. A few outlying privies still remain.
- (3) SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—Satisfactory, as shown by quarterly reports.
- (4) SCAVENGING.—All done by Corporation.
- (5) HOUSING.—Need for additional small houses from £25—£35.
- (6) CONVERSION OF PRIVIES.—Scheme for conversion is in hand. Number of privies being gradually reduced. 6 pail closets converted.
- (7) PAVING OF BACKYARDS.—Number require paving, but this is gradually being done.
- (8) PREMISES CONTROLLED BY REGULATIONS.—
 - (a) DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Certain structural alterations required in a few cowsheds.
 - (b) COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—None.
- (9) ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—Fairly satisfactory ; minor repairs required.
- (10) SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (11) SCHOOLS.—See School Report.
- (12) OTHER MATTERS.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

If a case requires treatment it should be sent to the Stockport Clinic, Great Egerton Street, which is open :

Males.—Tuesdays	5.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m.
Fridays	10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.
Females.—Thursdays	5.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m.
Tuesdays	10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

In necessitous cases the County Council will pay the train-fare of a patient upon his producing evidence to the County Medical Officer of Health that he is unable to pay his own fare.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

- (1) The general housing conditions are good on the whole.
The extent of shortage of houses is approximately 100 to 120.
Measures taken or contemplated to meet shortage.—Council houses scheme in progress.
- (2)
 - i. Overcrowding.—One in five overcrowded in artisan class.
 - ii. Causes.—Shortage of houses.
 - iii. Measures taken.—Council Scheme.
 - iv. Action taken in overcrowding.—Formal action.
- (3) FITNESS OF HOUSES.
 1. (a) General Standard.—Stone built mostly, and good on the whole.
 - (b) General Character of Defects.—General defects and yard pavements.
 - (c) Defects are due to lack of proper supervision by owners and to a less extent by neglect of tenants.
 2. General action taken under—

(a) The Public Health Acts	}	See Housing Statistics.
(b) The Housing Acts		
 3. Difficulties found in remedying unfitness.—Not many unfit houses.
 4. Conditions affecting housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation, and refuse disposal.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (4) Unhealthy Areas.—No unhealthy areas in district.
- (5) Bye-laws relating to houses, tents, land, sheds, etc.—Nil.
- (6) General and Miscellaneous.—Nil ; no special remarks.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1925.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	95
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	29

1.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—INSPECTION.

- (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 591

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	35
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	0
---	---

III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 23 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

B. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	454
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) by owners	401
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners...	45

C. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11, 14, and 15 OF THE
HOUSING ACT, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwell- ing-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pur- suance of Demolition Orders (voluntary)	2

T. BUXTON FLINT.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE MEAT INSPECTOR.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of
Buxton.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Report on Meat Inspection for the year ending 31st December, 1925.

Formerly this branch of Public Health work in the Borough was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, and I took over the duties of Meat Inspector from him in June, 1925.

The carcasses of all animals slaughtered within the Borough for food purposes and those of pigs brought in from the surrounding country districts are inspected. Wherever possible an ante mortem examination has been made, in addition to the post mortem inspection, thus ensuring that only animals in perfect health are slaughtered.

The inspection of pigs is a matter of importance, since, in most cases no ante mortem examination is possible, owing to the majority of pigs being slaughtered in the surrounding country, then brought into the town. The examination of these carcasses is made at the retail shops on their arrival.

The quality of the meat supplied in the Borough is excellent.

With respect to the slaughterhouses in the Borough, the Corporation's slaughterhouses are in need of repair, and a report of the work needed to put them in order has been placed before the Health Committee for their attention. The licensed private slaughterhouses are, in some cases, in close proximity to dwelling-houses ; this is undoubtedly prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants, and it is hoped that this matter will be remedied in the near future.

I wish to thank Mr. Coates for his helpful advice when taking over the duties in June.

There is no other matter upon which I wish to make any special observation.

Details of the work of slaughterhouse and meat inspection are set forth in the following tables :—

	Visits made.	Total (including Visits made by Sanitary Inspector).
INSPECTIONS OF SLAUGHTERHOUSES.....	660	1040

CARCASES EXAMINED :— (Together with organs)	Number Examined.	Totals (including Examinations made by Sanitary Inspector).
Oxen	413	559
Calves	251	341
Sheep and Lambs	3200	3868
Pigs	1121	1374
Grand Total	4985	6142

DISEASED OR UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.		Total Weight (including that dealt with by Sanitary Inspector).
(1) Tuberculosis :		
(a) Generalised.	lbs.	lbs.
Oxen	520	
Pigs	485	
	—	1005
(b) Localised.		
Portions of carcasses :—		
Oxen	26	
Calves	5	
Pigs	509	
	—	696
Organs :—		
Oxen	239	
Calves	39	
Pigs	28	
	—	337
(2) Fluky Livers (Distomatosis) :		
Oxen	179	
Sheep	48	
	—	382
(3) Cirrhosis of Liver :—		
Oxen	14	
Sheep	3	
Pigs	3	
	—	20
(4) Miscellaneous Lesions, etc., Cysts, Abscesses, Bruisings, Putrefaction, etc.		85
Grand Total		2,525

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. S. HOWE,

Meat Inspector.

APPENDIX B.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH METEOROLOGIST.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year 1925.

During August, 1925, the meteorological instruments were transferred from the grounds of the Devonshire Hospital to a more suitable site on the Slopes, where they have created much interest amongst visitors.

Regular observations are taken, and sent each week to the Air Ministry. During the summer months, additional daily reports are sent by telegraph for insertion in the daily papers.

The following table gives some of the more interesting statistics. It must be remembered when comparing the total sunshine with that of other health resorts situated in a flat part that the surrounding hills, whilst protecting us from the winds, cut off the early morning and late evening sunshine.

The minimum temperature of the year was reached on December 4th and 25th, when the thermometer in the shade registered 14 degrees F. July 22nd was the warmest day, with 83 degrees F.

The abnormally dry June is noticeable, the total rainfall for the month being 4.4 mm. February is at the other end of the scale, with a total fall of 193 mm.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. PILKINGTON, M.P.S.,

Borough Meteorologist.

ANNUAL METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1925.

TEMPERATURE.				RAINFALL.				SUNSHINE.					
Month	Means	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Total mm.	No. of days	Max. mm.	Date	Total hrs.	No. of days	Max. hrs.	Date
JANUARY	39	51	2	29	16	121.7	17	26.3	29	31.3	14	4.8	18
FEBRUARY	40	50	8, 10, 11	25	24, 25	192.5	24	37.0	11	52.2	20	6.1	22
MARCH	38	51	16	25	13, 22	57.9	20	18.0	13	68.8	24	7.8	9
APRIL	42	59	12	27	7	96.2	24	13.8	26	125.4	29	11.4	21
MAY	49	70	18	32	1	139.6	21	17.8	19	139.2	30	12.4	31
JUNE	56	82	10	39	25	4.4	4	3.0	26	217.5	29	14.1	9
JULY	60	83	22	45	8	56.7	17	15.1	28	159.0	28	12.6	24
AUGUST	59	73	17	42	7, 26	114.7	21	30.2	24	123.1	28	13.8	16
SEPTEMBER	51	63	30	32	13	143.15	22	24.2	9	112.2	25	10.0	3
OCTOBER	48	66	5	30	9	166.55	22	26.5	19	71.8	24	8.5	2
NOVEMBER	36	53	2	18	14	76.15	5	15.0	6	62.8	22	6.4	11
DECEMBER	35	53	29	14	4, 25	86.3	23	12.7	28	25.5	16	4.4	3

E. W. PILKINGTON, M.P.S.,
Borough Meteorologist.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year 1925.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1925.

TO THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY FOR THE BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children in the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

The Report follows generally the lines laid down in Schedule to Form 6 M., December, 1920, and is as concise as possible.

All the Schools in the Borough were inspected.

1. STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

School Medical Officer—T. B. Flint.

School Nurse.—Mrs. Stephens, who devotes about one-half her time to the Schools.

Assistant School Nurse—Mrs. Downes, who also gives one-half her time to the Schools

2. CO-ORDINATION.

- (a) The School Medical Officer is also Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Centre.
- (b) There are no Nursery Schools.
- (c) Provision is made for the care of debilitated children under school age at the Child Welfare Centre.

3. THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

(a) SCHOOL HYGEINE.

	Buxton Boys	Buxton Girls	Buxton Infants	Roman Catholic	Burbage Mixed	Burbage Infants	Fairfield Mixed	Fairfield Infants
Surroundings ...	Very Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very Good
Ventilation ...	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good
Lighting ...	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good
Warming ...	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good
Equipment and Sanitation ...	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Desks and Blackboards ...	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Sanitary Con- veniences and Lavatories ...	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good
Water for Wash- ing & Drinking	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Cleanliness of Rooms ...	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Arrangements for Drying Cloths ...	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good

There are no single desks, and eight children sit at one desk about twelve feet long.

More hand towels (roller) are required.

The floors are treated with "Dusmo" before sweeping, to prevent dust.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Number of Scholars, 1,357.

(a) The children were inspected

(1) on entry on school life;

(2) at the age of 8 years;

(3) on leaving school.

247 entrants were examined ;

137 children 8 years old ;

168 leavers were inspected ;

other Routine 13, making a total of 565 in the routine inspections in the " Code " groups. In addition, 250 children were examined as " special " cases, and 612 children were re-examined, making a grand total of 1427 medical inspections during the year.

Full details are given in Table I. at the end of this Report.

- (b) Medical inspections have been carried out at the Schools once every week (Thursday).

In addition, the School Clinic is held at the Child Welfare Centre on one day in each week (Tuesday), and a morning clinic held daily, on six days a week.

- (c) Any child who does not appear to be well is sent down to the School Clinic by the Head Teacher or by the School Nurse.

The School Medical Officer also watches for any signs of crippling defects at the routine inspections.

- (d) The inspection does not appear to have caused disturbance of school arrangements ; in fact, during the year, the work has gone on with great smoothness.

5. FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) UNCLEANLINESS.

- (i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses, 82.

- (ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses, 6,232.

- (iii) Number of individual children found unclean, 105.

- (iv) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority, Nil.

- (v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921, Nil.

(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws, 1.

(b) MINOR AILMENTS.

Ringworm-Head	4
Ringworm-Body	8
Impetigo	37
Ear Defects	24
Eye Disease (external)	22
Miscellaneous	257
	<hr/>
	352

(c) TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

25 cases were referred for treatment, of which 16 received operative treatment, and 84 received other forms of treatment.

In addition, there were 119 cases of slight to moderate degrees of enlargements, which were kept under observation. A large number of these had painting of the throat and tonic treatment at home 64 children had their throats painted at the morning clinic

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases were referred for treatment.

(e) SKIN DISEASES.

Ringworm. There were 7 Head and 8 Body cases.
Impetigo. There were 38 cases.
Other Skin diseases : 50 cases.

(f) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

Thirteen cases in all. Blepharitis, 8 ; conjunctivitis, 5 ;

(g) VISION.

Fifty-five children were referred for treatment Glasses were prescribed in 28 cases, and provided in 26 cases. In 8 no treatment was considered necessary (see (f) vision). Refractive work is carried out satisfactorily by arrangement with the County Council.

(h) EAR DISEASES AND HEARING.

There were nine cases of defective hearing and 13 cases of otitis media.

(i) DENTAL DEFECT.

More than 75 per cent. of the children proved to have one or more defective teeth.

DENTAL INSPECTION.

During the year excellent work has been done. The number of children inspected by the Dentist were (1) routine age groups, 859; (2) specials, 71; a grand total of 930. Of these, 620 were found to require treatment, and the number actually treated was 421. 93 half-days were devoted to dental work—15 for inspection and 78 for treatment. 360 permanent teeth were “filled” and 41 temporary teeth. 52 permanent teeth were extracted, and 482 temporary teeth. Other operations were done to 123 permanent teeth, and 103 temporary teeth. The total attendances made by children for treatment were 678.

6. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There has been very little notifiable infectious disease during the year.

The steps taken to prevent the spread were:

In Diphtheria—swabs from contacts taken.

In Scarlet Fever—exclusion from school of children residing in same house.

In Measles—exclusion of particular scholars.

Disinfection of classrooms.

7.—FOLLOWING UP.

When a child is found to be suffering from a physical defect a note is sent to the parent; the School Nurse visits the home, and if nothing is done, the child is seen by the School Medical Officer within a month of the first inspection. The School Nurses paid 200 visits to homes.

8. MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(a) MINOR AILMENTS are treated at the Infant Centre in Bridge Street, and at the homes by the School Nurse under the supervision of the School Medical Officer. Practically all the minor ailments were cured.

No. of dressing done at the morning Clinic 3210.

No. of Children who have been individually treated 406 (**excluding** Verminous conditions).

(b) TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Twelve cases received operative treatment with successful results in every case under the Authority's scheme, and four cases by private practitioners.

87 received other methods of treatment.

There is under the Local Education Authority's scheme an arrangement with the Derbyshire County Council for the treatment of tonsils. Twelve operations were performed under this scheme and four operations were done locally.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases were sent to the Tuberculosis Dispensary at Chinley for treatment. All were so much improved that they were able to attend school after intervals varying from three to six months.

(d) SKIN DISEASES.

All cases of Impetigo were cured. Of the seven cases of scalp-ringworm, all were cured by the end of the year. Eight cases of body-ringworm were also cured. One went to Manchester for X-ray treatment.

(e) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

Eight cases of Blepharitis were cured, and also five cases of Conjunctivitis.

(f) VISION.

Glasses were prescribed in 28 cases and obtained under the Authority's scheme in 26. 25 were re-examined and found to be wearing correct glasses. One child had an operation for Strabismus, at the Manchester Eye Hospital.

(h) CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPÆDICS.

An arrangement between the Corporation and the Devonshire Hospital, by which children suffering from deformities would be treated at a nominal fee to the parents, was not sanctioned by the Board of Education.

9. OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

There is no provision of facilities for any of the undermentioned :

- (a) Playground classes ;
- (b) School journeys ;
- (c) School camps ;
- (d) Open-air classrooms ;
- (e) Day open-air schools ;
- (f) Residential open-air schools.

10. PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There is no arrangement for special physical training beyond the usual routine school drill and games.

11. PROVISION OF MEALS.

No meals are provided.

12. SCHOOL BATHS.

No baths are provided.

13. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

Every parent is informed by written notice of the day school inspection is held. About 20 per cent. of parents attend and are instructed how to carry out the treatment advised.

14. CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

The Head Teachers have, without exception, given cordial assistance at the time of medical inspections and are usually present, but do not take part in the following-up and treatment of the children, this being left to the School Nurse.

15. CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER.

The School Attendance Officer has not much to do with either inspection, following-up, or the treatment of children, but he reports cases of non-notifiable disease and also cases which have, as the result of serious illness, received certificates from their own doctors that they are unfit to attend school. Probably the cause of absence from school is illness in 80 per cent. of cases.

16. CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

These take no part in medical inspection, but the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children will, if a bad case is reported to them, take action.

17. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

There are no partially blind, no totally deaf, nor epileptic children attending the Public Elementary Schools. 5 girls and 3 boys are partially deaf. There are 13 boys and 3 girls mentally deficient children, i.e., feeble-minded, who attend Public Elementary Schools. There is no special school for the cases, but at the Girls' School, Hardwick Square, a special class is held.

Four children (2 boys, 2 girls) are physically defective (pre-tubercular), two children (1 boy, 1 girl) are crippled. These all attend Public Elementary Schools.

There are 5 boys and 19 girls, delicate children, attending Public Elementary Schools-

18. NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are no Nursery Schools.

19. SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

No Secondary Schools are inspected.

20. CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

No Continuation Schools are inspected.

21. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

- (i) The conditions of the employment of children and young persons are good on the whole.
- (ii) The Certifying Surgeon is also the School Medical Officer and examines many of the former pupils before they start work, the school record cards being of great use. As Medical Officer to the Welfare Centre he has the child under observation from the infant up to 5 years of age. As School Medical Officer he inspects the child periodically from 5 to 13 years of age ; and As Certifying Surgeon he meets with many again before they enter the factory or workshop.
- (iii) Children over 12 years were examined and certificates given for employment at special hours.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Four Tables are appended, shewing :

- I. The number of children inspected.
- II. (a) The number of defects found.
(b) The number of INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN found to require treatment at ROUTINE Medical Inspections.
- III. Return of all exceptional children.
- IV. Return of Defects treated.
 - (1) Minor Ailments ;
 - (2) Defective Vision and Squint ;
 - (3) Defects of Nose and Throat.
 - (4) Dental Defects.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BUXTON FLINT.

March 31st, 1926.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST
1925.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS (see note a).

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections
(see note b).[illegible]

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	250
(see note d).							
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	612
(see note e).							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	862

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER.

Defect or Disease.							Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
							No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
							(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
							Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
(1)							(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	Malnutrition						—	—	—	—
	Uncleanliness						—	—	—	—
	(See Table IV, Group V).						—	—	—	—
	{ Ringworm :									
	{ Scalp						1		7	
	{ Body								8	
Eye	{ Scabies									
	{ Impetigo								38	
	{ Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous) ...								50	
	{ Blepharitis						1		7	
	{ Conjunctivitis								5	
	{ Keratitis									
Ear	{ Corneal Opacities						2			
	{ Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...						18		12	
	{ Squint						12		2	
	{ Other Conditions						1		21	
Ear	{ Defective Hearing						2		7	
	{ Otitis Media						2		11	
	{ Other Ear Diseases								2	

(1)						(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nose and Throat	{	Enlarged Tonsils only	...	...	...	15	119	10	
		Adenoids only	...	...	...	
		Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	
		Other Conditions	...	...	...			6	
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)						3	269	12	
Defective Speech							6		
Teeth—Dental Diseases (see note a)									
(see Table IV, Group IV)									
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease :							
		Organic	...	...	...	
		Functional	...	...	...	
		Anæmia	...	...	...	8		28	
Lungs	{	Bronchitis							
		Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases							
		Pulmonary :							
		Definite	...	...	...	
Tuber- culosis	{	Suspected	...	...	...	
		Non-pulmonary :							
		Glands	...	...	...	
		Spine	...	...	...	
		Hip	...	...	...	
		Other Bones and Joints							
		Skin	...	...	...	
		Other Forms	...	...	...	
Nervous System	{	Epilepsy	...	...	...	
		Chorea	...	...	...	
		Other Conditions	...	...	...	1			
		Rickets	...	...	...	
Deformities	{	Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	
		Other Forms	...	...	...	4			
Other Defects and Diseases						4		257	

B. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN (see note b) FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

Group.	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require treatment (see note d). (4)
	Inspected (see note c). (2)	Found to require treatment. (3)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
CODE GROUPS :			
Entrants	247	134	
Intermediates	137	74	
Leavers	168	86	
Total (code groups)	552	294	
Other routine inspections ...	13	2	

TABLE III.—RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA
(see note a).

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Blind (including partially blind) (see note b).	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At other Institutions ... At no School or Institution ...			
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At other Institutions ... At no School or Institution ...			
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf) (see note d).	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At other Institutions ... At no School or Institution ...			
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At other Institutions ... At no School or Institution ...	5	3	8
Mentally Defective.	Feebleminded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority). (See note e).	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At other Institutions ... At no School or Institution ...	13	3	16
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Feebleminded ... Imbeciles ... Idiots ...			
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy (see note f).	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics. ... In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools ... Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At no School or Institution ...			
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe (see note g).	Attending Public Elementary Schools (see note c) ... At no School or Institution ...			

		...	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Physically Defective	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis (see note h).	At Sanatorium or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...			
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis (see note h).	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools (see note c) At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...	2	2	4
	Delicate children (e.g., pre or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.) (see note h).	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools (see note c) At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...	5	19	24
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis (See note h).	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Public Elementary Schools (see note c) At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...			
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease), e.g., children suffering from paralysis, &c., and including those with severe heart disease (see note h)	At Certified Hospital Schools At Certified Residential Cripple Schools At Certified Day Cripple Schools At Public Elementary Schools (see note c) At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...	1	1	2

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER.
(See note a).

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V).

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (See note b). (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm-Scalp	4	3	7
Ringworm-Body	8		8
Scabies			
Impetigo	37	1	38
Other skin disease	50		50
MINOR EYE DEFECTS (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II)	22		22
MINOR EAR DEFECTS (See note c).	24		24
MISCELLANEOUS (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	257		257
Total	402	4	406

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Defect or Disease. (1)	Number of defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme (see note b). (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report) ...	41			41
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	1			1
Total	42			42

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed	
(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	28
(b) Otherwise	—
Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles	
(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	26
(b) Otherwise	—

GROUP III. TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital (see note b)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
1	2	3	3	5.
12	4	16	84	100

GROUP IV.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

- (1) Number of Children who were : -

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist : | | |
| Aged : | | |
| Routine Age
Groups | 5. | 104 |
| | 6. | 109 |
| | 7. | 127 |
| | 8. | 116 |
| | 9. | 136 |
| | 10. | 163 |
| | 11. | 44 |
| | 12. | 23 |
| | 13. | 31 |
| | 14. | 6 |
| | | Total 859 |

Specials (see note d) 71

Grand Total 930

- (b) Found to require treatment 620

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (c) Actually treated | ... | ... | 421 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|

- (d) Re treated during the year
as the result of periodical
examination ... Nil.
(see note e)

- (2) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection	...	15	} Total	93
Treatment	...	78		

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| (3) Attendances made by children
for treatment | ... | ... | 678 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----|-------------|
| (4) Fillings :— | | | |
| Permanent | teeth | 360 | } Total 401 |
| Temporary | teeth | 41 | |

- (5) Extractions :—
- | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------------|
| Permanent teeth | 52 | } Total 534 |
| Temporary teeth | 482 | |

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (6) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions | Nil |
|--|-----|

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-------|-----|
| (7) Other operations :- | | | |
| Permanent teeth | 123 | Total | 226 |
| Temporary teeth | 103 | | |

GROUP V.—See 5 (body of Report.)

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BUXTON.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my report upon the work done in the Public Health Department by your Inspector, and his staff, during the year ending 31st December, 1925.

In conformity with the requirements with respect to Annual Reports, of the Ministry of Health, this report is compiled upon broader lines than were the reports for the years 1921-24, and comprises in many sections tabular statements which furnish a survey of the total sanitary works carried out during the last five years, and the progress made in certain sanitary matters during that period.

Special observations and enlargements have been made under the headings of the appropriate sections, instead of being entered briefly in these opening remarks as heretofore.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, REMOVAL OF PATIENTS TO
HOSPITAL, DISINFECTIONS, ETC.

The following table gives the number of patients suffering from notifiable, and other infectious diseases, that were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital during the year :—

Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Observation Cases—						
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Total ...						32

The remaining cases were treated at home, and kept under observation by your officers.

The Department maintains a horse drawn “ Infectious ” ambulance, which is constructed to accommodate stretcher cases.

The ambulance is housed at the hospital, the driver and horse being supplied from the Borough Surveyor’s Department. This arrangement is not entirely satisfactory, and in view of the fact that the joint small-pox hospital is a considerable distance from the town, the provision of a motor ambulance should be considered. Such an ambulance could also be utilised for transferring fever patients from among visitors, and scholars at boarding schools in the town, to hospitals in their home districts or their own homes, removals of this character being occasionally necessary.

The number of rooms disinfected during the year are given in the table below, the causes for such disinfections being indicated :—

Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cancer ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other diseases and causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	29
						—
Total ...						115

59 different premises are concerned in the above total.

Other details in connection with disinfections are as follows :—

Schools disinfected	4
Taxi-cabs disinfected	1
Library books destroyed	2
Beds destroyed	4
Number of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected in the rooms given in the above table.....	3,131
Number of articles disinfected at the disinfecting station	1,180
Number of visits paid to premises in connection with infectious disease and disinfections	142

Formaldehyde, either in the vapour form or the liquid (spray), is the agent used for disinfection.

The disinfecting station is situated in the grounds of the isolation hospital, the machine being of the “ Washington Lyons ” type, operated by a steam supply from the refuse destructor. A vertical “ stand by ” steam boiler is provided for emergencies.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The number of cases treated in the isolation hospital during the year was 35 (32 cases admitted, and 3 continued over from the year 1924).

The gross working expenses for the year amounted to £918 5s. 0d.

Contributions towards maintenance of patients received from parents and guardians amounted to £50 4s. 7d.

The staff of the isolation hospital comprises :—Matron ; assistant nurse ; cook and housekeeper ; and male caretaker and attendant ; temporary assistant nurses being engaged as occasion requires.

The administrative work of this institution is carried out by your Inspector.

CLEANSING.

Practically the whole of the work of cleansing (house refuse removal and nightsoiling) is carried out by the Corporation's men and vehicles, hired team labour being utilised one day per week to cope with an increased yield of refuse, and obviate undue employment of the regular men on "overtime." In previous years the Corporation teams were adequate for the purpose. The work is carried out under the superintendence of your Inspector. Street cleansing is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer.

As will be seen from the tabulated details below, the work is entirely carried out by means of horse drawn vehicles. During the years 1921-1923, two Ford "Tonners" were employed, and supplemented by two horse drawn vehicles. In June, 1924, the use of the Ford "Tonners" was abandoned, as, in the long run, they were found to be uneconomical in a district of the character of Buxton.

Considerable progress having been made in the design and construction of mechanically propelled vehicles for refuse collection, their utilisation for this work in the Borough should be reconsidered, particularly as Buxton shows signs of rapid growth in its more outlying parts, collection of refuse from which by means of horse drawn vehicles is not economical.

During the last few years the amount of house refuse collected has considerably increased in volume—due partly to a steady increase in the number of inhabited houses—but the total weight collected each year does not show an increase in proportion. This is due, apparently, to the milder winters experienced the last few years ; the elimination of uncovered receptacles, thus furnishing drier refuse ; and the substitution of gas fires and cookers and central heating apparatus for coal fires and cooking ranges in many houses.

Trade refuse, with the exception of refuse from butchers, fishmongers, and greengrocers' premises, is collected at a charge of 3s. 6d. per load, or 2d. per bin full, one bin full being removed free of charge. Occupiers of premises engaged in the trades above-mentioned make their own arrangements for removal.

All the house refuse is disposed of at the Refuse Destructor, which is a "Heenan and Froude" three-cell, and is under the charge of the Borough Engineer. The nightsoil is also disposed of at the destructor by mixing with ashes.

The table below furnishes the principal details of the work for 1925 :—

Number of vehicles permanently employed—Horses and Carts	5
Number of men permanently engaged	10
Net total cost of work for the year	£2,144
Total number of loads collected during the year.....	5,299
Total weight of refuse collected during the year.....	4,810 tons
Net cost per ton	8/7½
Net cost per load	7/10¼
Total number of loads of nightsoil removed	156

ASHPITS.

There are comparatively few ashpits in use within the Borough, and the majority of these are situated at large hotels, at which premises the conditions are such that the use of portable covered galvanised iron ashbins is not practicable.

Ashpits in connection with private houses are being abolished wherever sufficient grounds for their abolition can be put forward ; the number in use thus being slowly and gradually reduced.

In the following table particulars are given respecting the ashpit accommodation of the Borough, and the progress made during the last five years in the matter of provision of new ashbins and abolition of ashpits :

Number of ashpits in use	82
Number of houses using the above ashpits	136
Number of houses nominally provided with movable covered receptacles	3276
Percentage of above houses without receptacles or with receptacles dilapidated or unsuitable.....	5 p.c.
	Year Total for years
	1925. 1921-1925.
New galvanized iron ashbins provided	144 898
Ashpits abolished and bins provided	5 18
Ashpits repaired	3 3
Number of houses formerly using the the ashpits now abolished.....	— 37

In giving the above details, 24 houses situated in the rural portions of the Borough are not taken into consideration.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Borough is more particularly dealt with by your Medical Officer of Health in his report, but the following details may be of interest :—

Number of houses supplied with water from the Corporation's water mains.....	3410
Number of houses supplied from private reservoirs.....	5
Number of houses supplied by wells	1
Number of houses depending on springs and surface water storage tanks	21

All the houses supplied from the “ mains ” have a direct service. There are no storage tanks for drinking water in the Borough.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

As will be seen from the particulars given in the table below, there are comparatively few houses in the Borough without a public sewer connection. Sewer extensions, now in progress in connection with building developments in the more rural portions of the Borough, will, in the near future, allow of the abolition of a considerable number of cesspools.

Particulars respecting sewer connections, etc. :—

Number of houses connected with public sewers	3358
Number of houses, with water closets, connected to cesspools	33
Number of houses with waste water drainage only, connected to cesspools	45

Details of drain tests made during the year :—

Primary smoke tests applied to old drains	8
Chemical tests applied to old drains	3
Drains opened up and examined	12
Water tests applied to reconstructed drains	14
Smoke tests applied to repaired drains, soil pipes and ventilating shafts	31
Coloured water tests for tracing leaks and connections	31

Details of reconstructional works, repairs, etc., carried out during the year 1925, and the period 1921-1925 :—

	Year 1925.	Total for years 1921-1925.
House drains reconstructed.....	12	... 122
House drains trapped and ventilated ...	10	... 78
House drains repaired	12	... 57
Gullies and inspection chambers repaired	33	... 181
New inspection chambers constructed ...	4	... 60
New soil pipes and vent shafts constructed	3	... 26
Old soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	6	... 43

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximately 97 per cent. of the houses in the Borough are provided with water closets. Conversions of privies and pail closets to water closets have been carried out in small numbers each year recently under a rate aided scheme, the Health Committee allocating only a small sum out of revenue each year for the purpose in order to spread the total cost over a number of years: this sum being now reduced to a figure that will allow of the conversion of only six privies or pail closets per annum, but quite adequate for the number now available for conversion.

Before the majority of the remaining dry conveniences can be converted extensions of the sewerage system will be necessary.

Particulars of the closet accommodation are :—

Number of houses provided with water closets.....	3347
Number of houses provided with privies	14
Number of houses provided with pail closets	75

Conversions etc., carried out during 1925 and the period 1921-1925 :—

	Year 1925.	Total for Years 1921-1925.
Number of privies converted to water closets	2	... 6
Number of privies converted to pail closets	1	... 1
Number of pail closets converted to water closets	6	... 43
New galvanized iron receptacles provided for pail closets	—	... 11

HOUSING.

The general condition of the artisan class dwelling-houses in the Borough is good: the majority being stone built, “structurally” dangerous houses are unknown. Defects found in the course of housing inspections are generally concerned with minor and superficial repairs, the principal being repaving and repair of the existing paving of back yards. There are a certain number of old houses which should be closed when the existing tenants can be satisfactorily disposed of, the main causes of their unfitness being insufficiency of air space and ventilation, and general dampness; defects which, owing to situation, cannot be remedied.

Notwithstanding the progress made in the erection of new houses a considerable amount of overcrowding still exists.

Two houses were voluntarily demolished during the year.

During the year 95 new houses were erected, the total number for the five years 1921-1925 being 176. The rate of progress at which new houses are being erected is now showing signs of considerable acceleration.

In addition to the number of new houses erected during the last five years, a number of large houses have been converted into flats.

Particulars respecting Housing Inspections during the year 1925 are given in the following table :—

Houses inspected for defects under Public Health Acts	591	
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	.....	35
Number closed for habitation	.....	—
Number of houses demolished—voluntarily	.....	2
Number of houses at which defects were found and dealt with by notice under the Public Health Acts	454	
Number of houses at which defects were remedied by owners after notice under the Public Health Acts	401	
Number of houses at which defects were remedied by the Corporation :—		
Under Public Health Acts in default of owners	18	446
By agreement with owners following informal action	27	
	—	
		45

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The year 1925 witnessed the coming into operation of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1925. These regulations, which aim at a systematic inspection of all animals slaughtered for human food, have been found to entail an increased demand upon the time of Sanitary Inspectors.

After two months' experience of the administration of the regulations, it was found that your Inspector could not satisfactorily carry out the duties without considerably neglecting many others. The Health Committee, desiring that the inspection of meat should be rigidly carried out considered the alternatives (a) the appointment of a Veterinary Surgeon as a part time Meat Inspector ; (b) the appointment of a full time Assistant Sanitary Inspector, with a Meat Inspector's qualifications. The Veterinary Surgeon—Mr. R. S. Howe, M.R.C.V.S.—was appointed, and took over the duties in June.

The following table furnishes particulars as to the slaughterhouses in the Borough, the inspections of same, and the inspection of meat carried out before the appointment of the Veterinary Surgeon, and during his absence on holiday ; also of foods other than meat :—

Number of Slaughterhouses in use, inspections, etc. :—	
Licensed (Private)	4
Corporation Slaughterhouses	2
Number of inspections made	380
Nuisances abated	2
Inspections of Butcners, Fishmongers, etc., Shops, and Market Stalls	877

INSPECTIONS OF MEAT :—		
Whole carcasses and organs—Oxen	....	146
Calves	.....	90
Sheep and Lambs	.....	668
Pigs	.....	253
Total		1157

UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED :—		
(1) MEAT—Tuberculosis Localised.	lbs.	lbs.
(a) Parts of carcasses :—Oxen	7	
Pigs	149	
(b) Organs :—Oxen	19	
Pigs	12	
	—	187
Fluky Livers (Distomatosis) :—Oxen	153	
Sheep	2	
	—	155
Miscellaneous Lesions, etc :—		
Cysts, Abscesses, Bruisings,		
Putrefaction :—Oxen	67	
Sheep	14	
Pigs	4	
	—	85
Total weight		427 lbs.
(2) OTHER FOODS :—		
Bacon	224 lbs.	
Fish	56 lbs.	
Fruit and Vegetables	49 lbs.	
Cauliflowers	55 articles	
Canned Foods	53 articles	

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

That the milk supply of Buxton is largely produced in districts outside the Borough, is shown by the fact of 39 producers from outside being registered as against 27 within the Borough ;' also, only three of the dairy farms in the Borough are at all extensive in size, the remainder being quite small with just a few cows.

The majority of the cowsheds at the smaller farms are in need of considerable improvement. During the last few years the policy with regard to these has been to enforce strict cleanliness, making the best of existing conditions pending new legislation.

Two cowsheds were closed during the year, one of them in addition being demolished.

In the following table details are given respecting the premises entered in the register and the inspections made during the year :—

Number of Persons or Firms on Register :—		
Within the Borough	48	
From outside the Borough	39	
	—	
Total	87	

No. of Premises on the Register :—		
Dairies	12	
Cowsheds	27	
Milkshops	21	

Inspections made :—		
Dairies	146	
Cowsheds	188	
Milkshops	39	
	—	
Total	373	

Contraventions of Orders, and Nuisances :—		
Cowsheds :		
Default in limewashing during the prescribed months	5	
Accumulations of manure	5	
Cesspool in need of cleansing	1	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

During the year 72 samples of Milk were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination by the Derby County Bacteriologist. Of these samples 31 were of morning milk and 41 of night.

Twenty-nine of the milks were tested (through guinea pigs) for Tubercle Bacilli; 62 were submitted for bacterial counts, and tests for Bacillus Coli; and two for test for Bacillus Coli only. The results are set forth below :—

	No. of Tests. Positive. Negative. Percentage			
				T.B.
(a) Test for Tubercle Bacilli :—	29	2	27	6.89

(b) **Bacterial Counts :—**

LIMIT OF BACTERIAL CONTENT FOR GRADE A MILK.

	Up to 10,000 per C.C.	Over 10,000 and up to 20,000	Over 20,000 and up to 50,000	Over 50,000 and up to 100,000	Over 100,000 and up to 200,000	Over 200,000 and up to 1,000,000	Over 1,000,000
No. of Tests (total 62) ...	19	10	15	4	3	6	5
Highest Bacterial Count	10,000	20,000	50,000	77,000	186,000	800,000	5,920,900
Lowest ,, ,,	1,000	11,000	21,000	51,000	113,000	208,000	1,056,000
Average ,, ,,	5,947	14,900	30,933	59,750	157,333	518,666	2,261,200

	No. of Tests.	Positive.	Negative.	Percentage with Bacillus Coli
(c) Bacillus Coli :—	64	7	57	10.93

Of the 62 samples submitted for Bacterial Count and test for bacillus coli, 48 or 77.41 per cent. proved to be equal to Grade A standard.

The foregoing defects found in the milk supply were all rectified.

FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS, ETC.

The Derby County Council is the Authority for the administration of the above named Acts.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 157 Factories, Workshops and Workplaces on the Register, including 25 Bakehouses. Apart from baking, the trades concerned are mainly :—Boot repairing, Cabinet-making, Dressmaking, Joinery, Laundry Work, Millinery, Motor Repairing, Printing, and Tailoring.

No lists of outworkers from employers, either from within or outside the Borough, were received during the year.

The table below furnishes details of the work done during the year in connection with Factories and Workshops :—

Number of Inspections made.....	389
Number of notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories	2

DEFECTS FOUND—

FACTORIES :

Closet accommodation insufficient.....	1
No sanitary accommodation	2
	— 3

WORKSHOPS :

Staircase defective.....	1
Workshops in need of limewashing	9
Water closets in dirty condition	4
Water closet structure defective.....	1
Workshops overcrowded	1
Roof defective	1
No fastener on females' water closet door	1
	— 18

BAKEHOUSES :

Sink defective	1
Drains blocked	2
Floors dirty and accumulations of dust under troughs.....	4
Drains defective.....	1
Roof defective	1
Bakehouses in need of Limewashing	2
	— 11

Total 32

DEFECTS REMEDIED :—

FACTORIES :

Factories limewashed	2	
Drinking water cup and notice provided.....	1	
	—	3

WORKSHOPS :

Staircase repaired	1	
Workshops limewashed	4	
Water closets cleansed	3	
Water closets fittings repaired	3	
Structure repaired.....	1	
	—	12

BAKEHOUSES :

Drains unstopped	2	
Accumulations of dust under troughs removed	4	
Ash receptacles provided.....	1	
Drains repaired	1	
Roofs repaired	1	
Bakehouses limewashed	3	
	—	12

Total 27

SHOPS ACTS.

The Corporation is the Local Authority for the administration of the above Acts within the Borough, and your Inspector has been appointed an Inspector under the Act of 1912.

During the year 125 visits and inspections were made.

As a result of petitions made by occupiers of shops carrying on certain specified classes of businesses, and after taking the votes of the persons concerned, Orders were made exempting the following businesses from the provisions of Section 4 of the Act of 1912, with respect to the weekly half-holiday, viz. :—

- The sale of Antiques.
- The sale of Fancy Goods.
- The sale of Picture Post Cards.
- The sale of Toys.
- The sale of Souvenirs.
- The sale of Second-hand Books.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Buxton being a residential district, there is only a comparatively small output of industrial smoke. However, there are six or seven chimneys in connection with the steam and power plants at the Corporation's Mineral Water Baths, and the large hotels, that at times do emit volumes of dense smoke (not always black smoke) in excess of the limit desirable for a town of this class, one of the prime essentials of which is a clear pure air.

Upon an undue emission of smoke being observed, a visit is promptly paid to the particular boiler house, and a caution given to the fireman on duty. This procedure generally has the desired effect for the time being.

During the year, a large amount of time and attention was taken up in connection with a nuisance arising from smoke from a lime works, situated about half-a-mile outside the Borough boundary.

The number of observations made during the year was 98.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, ETC.

There are four places of amusement in the Borough, viz.: The Opera House, The Pavilion Gardens, The Hippodrome, and The Picture House.

All the places mentioned were inspected, a number of minor defects being remedied as a result.

The Sanitary accommodation in one case is inadequate, and the provision of additional accommodation is under consideration.

With the above exception the premises are well fitted up and excellently managed.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One offensive trade only—that of a tripe boiler—is established in the Borough.

The business is carried on in a building in connection with the Corporation's slaughterhouses in Charles Street.

160 inspections of the premises were made, and on every occasion they were found scrupulously clean and well managed.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Corporation is not a Local Authority for the purposes of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, not having accepted the delegation of powers offered by the County Council.

During the year, a considerable amount of time was given by the Sanitary Inspector and the sanitary workman to practical rats destruction, and during "Rat Week" the hearty co-operation of occupiers of various classes of premises was obtained. The number of dead rats secured was small in proportion to the efforts made, but the results, as demonstrated by the disappearance of rats from certain infested localities, may be pronounced, on the whole, satisfactory.

Late in the year, it was decided to supply poison baits to occupiers of premises infested by rats and mice free, on application at the Public Health Office. This arrangement had been in operation for too short a period to warrant any special remarks in this Report.

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

During the year 312 Preliminary Notices (written or verbal), with respect to nuisances, etc., were sent to owners or agents, and occupiers of premises, whilst 43 Statutory Notices were served on your instructions.

The number and nature of the nuisances abated, and sanitary improvements effected as the result of this action are set forth in Appendix II. to this report. The table also shows the total number of nuisances abated and sanitary improvements effected during the period 1921-1925.

In three cases works were executed by the Public Health Department—acting on the instructions of the Council—in default of owners of property, with respect to works required by statutory notices. Works were also carried out in connection with twenty-seven houses under agreement with the owners, following informal action.

No police court proceedings were taken during the year.

In concluding this report, I should like to express my thanks for the support I have received from the Council, and from the members of the Health Committee; also for the ready help, kindness and courtesy that I have received from my brother Officers.

I would further express my appreciation of the valuable and willing service rendered during the year by Messrs. G. H. Gyte and T. L. Armitt, Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Clerk respectively, and the Isolation Hospital Staff.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. OWEN COATES,

Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX 1.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Infectious Disease :—Investigations and Disinfections	...	...	...	142
Houses Inspected under Houses Acts	...	...	...	35
Houses and Premises Inspected after Complaints	...	...	...	240
House to House and General Inspections	...	...	...	696
Inspections of Cowsheds	...	...	...	188
„ „ Dairies	...	...	...	146
„ „ Milkshops	...	...	...	39
„ „ Factories	...	...	...	20
„ „ Workshops	...	...	...	54
„ „ Bakehouses	...	...	...	312
„ „ Laundries	...	...	...	3
„ „ Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	380
„ „ Butchers', Fishmongers', etc., Shops and Market Stalls	...	...	...	877
„ „ Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	300
„ „ Offensive Trades	...	...	...	160
„ „ Stables	...	...	...	1540
„ „ Piggeries	...	...	...	158
„ „ Tents, Sheds, Vans, etc....	...	...	...	19
„ „ Schools...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Drainage work in progress	...	...	...	168
„ „ Theatres and places of Amusement	...	...	...	4
Smoke observations	...	...	...	98
Sundry visits	...	...	...	276
Re-inspections	...	...	...	2564
				—
Total				8421

APPENDIX II.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

	Year 1925	Totals for five years 1921-25
Houses :—Closed for habitation	—	3
„ Rendered fit for habitation... ..	—	2
„ Demolished	2	2
„ Structure repaired	8	36
„ Internal pavings and floors repaired ...	5	22
„ Roofs repaired	8	40
„ Dampness remedied	1	14
„ Ventilation improved	6	36
„ Overcrowding abated	2	4
Houses and premises cleansed	18	131
Eaves gutters, and rain water pipes repaired ...	16	144
Rain water pipes disconnected from drains ...	5	46
Water supply :—Provided or restored	—	1
„ „ Fittings repaired (Dampness)	—	3
Drains :—Reconstructed	12	122
„ Trapped and ventilated	10	78
„ Repaired	12	57
„ Unstopped and cleansed	169	969
„ Gullies and gully settings repaired ...	28	135
„ Inspection Chambers repaired	5	46
„ New Inspection Chambers constructed ...	4	60
Soil pipes and vents :—New constructed	3	26
„ „ „ „ Old repaired	6	43
Privy Cesspools :—Converted to water closets ...	2	6
„ „ Converted to pail closets	1	1
Pail Closets :—Converted to water closets	6	43
„ New receptacles provided	—	11
Water Closets :—Cleansed	8	33
„ „ Structure repaired	15	61
„ „ Fittings repaired	22	86
„ „ Flushing cisterns repaired	4	40
„ „ New flushing cisterns provided ...	10	112
Urinals :—Cleansed	2	3
„ Repaired	1	2
Sinks :—New sinks provided	2	3
„ Repaired	3	13
Waste pipes :—Disconnected from drains	—	5
„ „ New waste pipes provided	1	11
„ „ Trapped	1	8
„ „ Repaired	10	52
Ashpits :—Abolished and bins provided	5	18
„ Repaired	3	3
„ Portable galvanized bins provided	144	898
Yards :—Unpaved yards paved	2	37
„ Defective pavements relaid	26	84
„ Defective pavements repaired	6	21
Accumulations removed	12	51
Manure receptacles provided	1	6
Improper keeping of animals discontinued ...	8	28
Smoke nuisances abated	—	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	11	54
TOTALS ...	626	3711

APPENDIX III.

NOTICES, &c.

Informal Notices served :—

Verbal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200

Total ... 312

Statutory Notices served ... 43

Prosecutions ... 0

